



What are the most important things you need to work on NOW, to prepare for your year as Worshipful Master of Your Lodge?

- (a) Learn the **ritual** to open and close the lodge
- (b) Arrange your **programs** for the year you are Worshipful Master
- (c) Learn how to handle petitions for degrees, affiliation, and other **membership** issues
- (d) Take care of **finances** and preparing a budget
- (e) Practice being a good **speaker**
- (f) Learn **other** things, such as handling funerals, food for meetings, Grand Lodge rules

Why is learning the ritual important TO YOU?

- (a) So you don't have to worry about it while you're running your meetings
- (b) To prove to your members that you know what you're doing
- (c) Because you don't want PMs on the sidelines "helping" you with prompting
- (d) Because some Brethren feel it helps teach everyone important lessons

What's the best way to learn the ritual to open and close your lodge?

- (a) Read what's in the Kentucky Monitor/Th Ky Rtl book over and over
- (b) Listen carefully at lodge meetings
- (c) Recite the ritual in the car on your way to and from lodge meetings
- (d) Ask someone who knows the ritual very well to help you

What should you remember about lodge programs?

- (a) Make a calendar of all the meetings coming up in your year as Worshipful Master
- (b) Fill in all the "required" programs, such as elections, installation, etc.
- (c) List all the topics for programs that YOU think might be interesting
- (d) Put your program on FIRST, before the lodge business, to show what's most important
- (e) Try to put names together with program topics and ideas
- (f) Call, write, and talk with people who you want to help you with your programs
- (g) Keep notes, so you know who's interested and what follow-up is needed
- (h) When you have a program planned, send letters to all involved, with all the details
- (i) Call all involved a couple of weeks before programs, remind them, offer assistance
- (j) Call again a couple of days before, to remind again, and again offer assistance
- (k) Try to come up with interesting programs and ways of presenting them

What do you need to know about lodge finances?

- (a) It will not take much time to put together a simple budget
- (b) Find out about how much can be expected in dues
- (c) Find out about how much might be expected from investments and other income
- (d) Check what the expenses have been in recent years; which do you plan to continue
- (e) Think about other programs you might want, and what they might cost
- (f) Write down your proposed budget, and ask others for comments and suggestions



All in all, what do you need to learn and practice so the members of your Lodge will say, "He's one of the best Masters our Lodge has ever had."

- (a) Become proficient at the opening and closing ritual, so you can say it in your sleep
- (b) Put most of your effort into organizing programs that everyone will find interesting
- (c) Learn how to handle petitions and other membership issues efficiently
- (d) Determine where the money will come from, and where it will go
- (e) Check on what has to be done to make Masonic funerals respectful and organized
- (f) Decide what you'll do about food at meetings during your year, plan, and get help
- (g) Learn the Constitution and By-Laws